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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 43 No. 77 Pages: 6 Rs. 2.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 23 Fax: 2496530
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MYSURU Monday 11th May 2020
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REDUCE YOUR RISK OF
CORONAVIRUS
INFECTION
Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover nose and mouth when coughing with tissue or flexed elbow
Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
SOUTHERN STAR
MYSURU

Mysuru can now handle 1,000 COVID tests per day

- DFRL donates Mobile Containment Lab PARAKH to K.R. Hospital on National Technology Day today
- State-of-the-art machine a boon during Biological Emergency

Mysuru, May 11 (LNY&BCT)- The Mysuru District Administration and the Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMCR&I) attached to K.R. Hospital, have got a shot in the arm for testing COVID-19 cases with a new testing facility donated by Defence Food Research Laboratory (DFRL), Mysuru, this morning. With this, the number of testing in Mysuru that stands at over 300 per day at present can be increased up to 700 per day to meet a target of 1,000 with two more machines donated by Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru recently.

The innovative, state-of-the-art "PARAKH- a Mobile Microbial Containment (BSL-3) Laboratory developed by DFRL, Mysuru, was handed over by DFRL Director Dr. Anil Dutt Semwal to Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj, Dean & Director, MMC&RI.

Identifies pathogen and toxins

This readily deployable laboratory can be used for rapid detection and characterisation of pathogen and toxins in food and water. The laboratory is an autonomous 20 feet container mounted on Ashok Leyland truck. It is capable of identifying select food-borne pathogen and toxins (Anthrax, Brucellosis, Salmonella, Shigella, E. Coli, Listeria, Yersinia, Botulinum, Staphylococcal Enterotoxin, Afla toxin, Ochra toxin, etc,) using both immunological and molecular test. Now this ultra-modern testing facility has been handed over to MMC&RI to test COVID-19 patients. Incidentally, today (May 11) is National Technology Day which marks significant milestone in the history of India's technological innovations as India successfully tested nuclear bombs in Pokhran on May 11, 1998.

A boon

According to Dr. Anil Dutt Semwal, PARAKH adheres to 'Class ISO 7' and operated with negative pressure to handle clinical, food and environmental samples during Biological Emergency without any risk to personal and environment.

"It is equipped with dynamic pass box for transferring the samples directly inside the Class-III biosafety cabinet for safe handling. It has complete Heating Ventilation Air Condition (HVAC) for maintenance of unidirectional airflow and room pressure gradients of negative pressure as compared to the ambient," he said.

Advanced features

The Lab has been provided with PCR workstation, real-time PCR Machine, incubator, deep freezer and refrigerator for testing samples and storing reagents with provision for treatment of liquid effluents, safe storage of solid biohazard wastes and decontamination by autoclaving.

(See COVID on page 5)

14-day quarantine must
for all those returning to State

Bengaluru, May 11 (KMS & BCT)- All those who arrive from outside Karnataka should be compulsorily quarantined for 14 days even if asymptomatic before they are allowed to go home, said Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa.

The CM cleared a list of protocols for people of Karnataka returning from other States as well as from overseas. Special attention will be on people from five States — Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Delhi — that have been categorised as high risk by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Bodies of those dead outside Karnataka cannot be brought in for cremation

The Chief Minister held a meeting with Ministers and bureaucrats at his Home Office 'Krishna' yesterday to discuss the State's preparedness for the return of thousands of people of Karnataka stranded in other States and countries. This is in the light of several COVID positive cases being reported in the State in the past few days having a travel history of Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat. According to sources, the meeting also decided that those returning to Karnataka have to compulsorily register online.

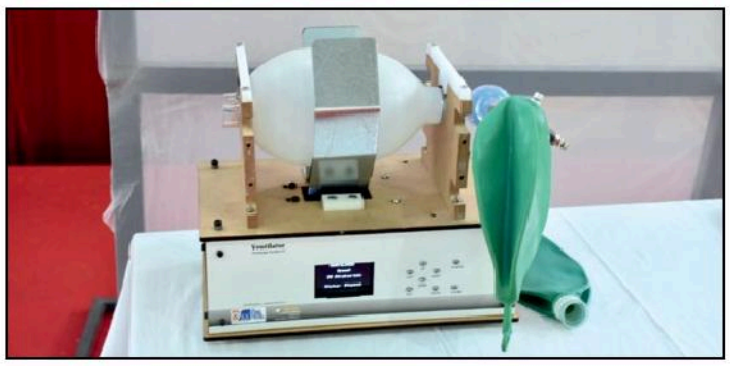
All those who arrive shall be kept under quarantine for two weeks, and only those who are ready to undergo quarantine must register their names. The applicants must inform their place of arrival and date while registering, and they will be allowed according to the availability of quarantining facilities

(See QUARANTINE on page 6)

STAR PUNCH By Satish Acharya

Low-cost innovations that can save lives during a pandemic

JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research comes up with ICU on wheels, low-cost ventilator, multi-mode air sanitiser



Mysuru, May 11 (BCT)- While the Coronavirus pandemic has triggered a lot of innovations globally including technological developments, discovery of new drugs and vaccines, development of rapid testing diagnostics, innovations in medical practices, mathematical modelling and predictive sciences, here in Mysuru, an ICU on wheels and a low-cost ventilator have been developed.

The innovations have sprung up from JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSS AHER) that was recently ranked 20th in the world and 1st in India by Times Higher Education (THE) in their impact rankings.

Idea Unlimited Mysuru, a city-based biomedical devices making company, along with JSS AHER jointly developed mobile ICU and other biomedical devices to combat COVID-19 and other pandemics. These devices were readied in just 12 days during the lockdown and were unveiled at Suttur Mutt last Friday.

The devices earned huge public appreciation and also drew the attention of Industries Minister Jagadish Shettar, Mysuru District Minister S.T. Somashekar and Urban development Minister B.A. Basavaraj. The equipment was demonstrated to the VVIPs in the presence of Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, MP Pratap Simha and MLAs S.A. Ramdas, L. Nagendra, G.T. Devegowda, B. Harshavardhan and C.S. Niranjan Kumar.

These technologies or products will indigenously support and make available low-cost interventions and applications and be valuable to humanity. According to Nagendra Setti of Idea Unlimited Mysuru and Dr. Srinivasamurthy who developed the Mobile ICU, the innovation helps to provide timely care to the patients in emergency situations.

ICU on wheels

Isolation ICU on wheels is an application that will enable mobilising of the isolation and ICU facility to remotest site of disaster and support the golden hour of treatment in any given situation, be it a pandemic or a disaster. With increased hospitalisation costs, isolation and intensive care may become available at homes with this new advancement. The approximate cost of this set up at the present development stage is about Rs. 4 lakh and will get reduced in large scale manufacture.

Low-cost ventilator

This low-cost ventilator is portable, has a disposable ambu-bag, adjustable respiratory rate, adjustable tidal volume and provides Positive End Expiratory Pressure (PEEP) which is not found in other low-cost ventilators. The cost of the ventilator is presently Rs. 30,000 and can be further brought down.

Denti Safe

Denti Safe is an application that will ensure the practice of dentistry safe for both patients and dentists. The Denti Safe application is scientifically developed mobile device that can sterilise dental chairs and treatment areas in less than 20 minutes using a non-chemical intervention and relies on the specific wave length of UV light that ensures safety.

The application is movable and can be used in multiple locations in a large dental hospital and will ensure the safety of the patient and the dentist. The approximate cost of the device is Rs. 30,000 and can be reduced in the large-scale manufacture.

Multi-mode air sanitiser

This multi-mode air sanitiser has a three-step sanitisation process, UV treatment at a specific wave length to kill the virus, Ionisation that kills all microbes including virus and lastly a HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter that reduces the particulate matter in the air. The cost of this air sanitiser is Rs. 4,500 and can come down drastically if bulk produced.

Hand-held UV surface sanitiser

This lithium-ion battery-operated device is a handy surface sanitiser that can be charged by a mobile charger and uses UV radiation for sanitising small surfaces that are frequently used by others for example lift buttons, key boards, operating instruments etc. This personalised sanitiser can be carried by individuals in their pockets with ease. This will give the comfort of personal safety to individuals while using public places. The cost of the surface sanitiser is Rs. 1,250 and can be reduced further on bulk production.

These technologies that support the patient and healthcare provider safety and well-being will be valuable even beyond the pandemic and in peaceful times.

The research team of Director-Research Dr. S. Balasubramanian, Professor of Paediatrics Dr. Srinivasamurthy, Professor of Paediatric Dentistry Dr. B. Nandlal, Dean & Faculty of Medicine Dr. H. Basavannagowdappa, Dean & Faculty of Dentistry Dr. S. Ravindra, and Registrar Dr. B. Majunatha have contributed immensely for the projects.

Tailors upset over being ignored in CM's relief package

Mysuru, May 11 (RKB&DM)- Alleging that Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has ignored them while announcing a Rs.1,610 crore relief package for certain sections of the working class recently, tailors from Bhavasar Kshatriya Community have urged the CM to extend a helping hand to them too.

The community has taken to various social media platforms like WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram to vent out its ire against the CM for neglecting the community.

The Mysuru Bhavasar Kshatriya Tailors Association, while welcoming the relief package for the working class, claimed that tailors who eke out their living by stitching clothes are rendered jobless due to the lockdown and as such the community needed some financial support from the Government.

Maintaining that most of the tailors are from the unorganised sector, it said that tailors do not know any other vocation or profession and the lockdown has caused them untold hardship.

The Association has urged the Govt. to come to the rescue of tailors too by extending the much needed financial support.

107 Mysuru journalists test negative for COVID-19

Mysuru, May 11 (MTY&KS)- All 107 city journalists, whose swab samples were collected on May 8, was tested and the lab reports have confirmed that the samples were negative.

Presspersons including reporters, photographers and videographers of both print and electronic media have been working continuously during the lockdown. As a few journalists from Bengaluru and other places, who had travelled to various places for news coverage had tested positive for COVID-19, the State Government had conducted screening of working journalists and their swab samples were collected for testing.

As Mysuru district was classified as Red Zone, there was anxiety that Mysuru journalists had contracted the virus and hence swab samples of 107 journalists were collected and was sent to the lab for testing.

Health Officer Dr. Ravi said that the lab reports of all 107 journalists was received on Sunday and clarified that all have been tested negative for COVID.

VOICE OF THE READER

Kudos to Corona Song and Karnataka Police

Sir,

I read an interesting news in *Star of Mysore* e-paper yesterday regarding the 'Corona Awareness Song' sung by Police Inspector S.D. Suresh Kumar. Immediately, I searched for the song from YouTube link given in the report and heard it repeatedly for a few times.

As the song sung by the Police Inspector was very melodious and meaningful, I forwarded the YouTube link to many of my friends in different Ex-servicemen Friends' WhatsApp groups without any delay along with *SOM's* e-paper link.

We Kannadigas should be very proud of 'Karnataka Police' which is one of the best Police Forces in our country.

I am aware of the fact that many people among the general public do not know that Ex-servicemen constitute almost 10% of the total strength of Police Force in Karnataka. I as a Veteran Sergeant of Indian Air Force feel very proud of all those Ex-servicemen serving presently or served thus far in Karnataka Police Department.

Jai Hind, Jai Karnataka!

— Mandetira N. Subramani,
President, VeKare
Ex-servicemen Trust
Mysuru 11.5.2020

CBSE: Evaluation of answer scripts begin

New Delhi, May 11- The evaluation of answer scripts of CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) 10th and 12th standard exams began across the country on May 10.

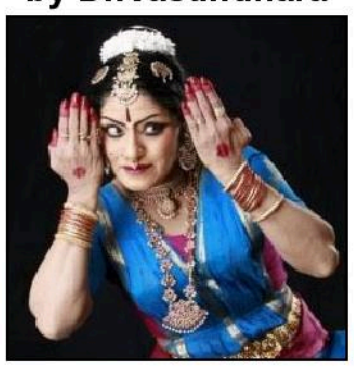
Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank on Saturday had said that there were nearly 2.5 crore answer scripts for evaluation which will take place in 3,000 schools across the country. The evaluation process would be completed in the next 50 days. About 18 lakh students had appeared for Class 10 exam and 12 lakh students for Class 12 exam. The exam for 29 pending subjects of Class 12 in India and the Class 10 exam in North East Delhi would be held from July 1 to 15 as already announced, he said and added that the evaluation of these answer scripts too would be completed in a short time after the exams.

K-SET: Aspirants can submit applications till May 25

Mysuru, May 11- University of Mysore (UoM), the nodal agency for the conduct of K-SET (Karnataka – State Eligibility Test) for appointment as Assistant Professors in First Grade Colleges of the State, has permitted the aspirants to apply online for the exam till May 25. Accordingly, the aspirants can apply online by paying a penalty of Rs.250. The revised date of the test will be notified in the University website: http://kset.uni-mysore.ac.in.

The University had earlier set Mar. 11 as deadline for applying and the exam was scheduled to take place on Apr.12. But it was postponed due to the lockdown and now the University has given one more opportunity for aspirants to apply for this important eligibility test.

Online dance recital by Dr.Vasundhara



Mysuru, May 11- Continuing the cultural programmes during the lockdown, Ganabharathi has arranged an online live dance recital by the renowned danseuse Dr. Vasundhara Doreswamy between 6 pm and 7 pm on May 12 (Tuesday).Interested may log on to https://www.facebook.com/ganabharathi/, according to Dr. C.G. Narasimhan.

Free telephonic counselling

Mysuru, May 11- St. Mary's Hospital (Psychiatric, De-addiction and Rehabilitation Centre), Silk Factory Circle, Mysuru, is offering free telephonic counselling for Depression, Anxiety, Craving Management for Substance Use Disorder and any kind of query related to mental health issues during lockdown period. Those in need may contact Ph: 0821-2482301 or Mob: 96631-38081 or 97399-67550.

Mysuru beauticians seek financial aid from Govt.

Mysuru, May 11 (MTY&DM)- Hard hit by COVID-19 lockdown, the city beauty parlour owners have urged the State Government to declare financial assistance to them.

A delegation of office-bearers of Mysuru District (City) Beauticians and Beauty Parlour Owners Association submitted memorandums in this regard to the Deputy Commissioner, the Mayor and the MCC Commissioner on Saturday. Pointing out that beauty parlours have shut down for the past two months due to lockdown, Association President Veda Rai said that the Government must extend a financial assistance of Rs.5,000 a month for every parlour.

Highlighting the plight of parlour owners and staff, she said that they are facing untold hardships in taking care of their families in the absence of any income. Noting that small parlours are fighting for survival, she said that the Government must ask the owners of buildings from which the parlours are working, to give 50 percent discount on monthly rent.

Claiming that beauty service too is one of the essential services, Veda Rai said that the Government should come to the rescue of parlour owners and staff, who are all ladies, by announcing a financial package.

Stating that there are over 600 small and big beauty parlours in the city, with most of the women working there coming from poor families, she said that the Government must announce monthly financial support of Rs. 5,000 for every beautician.

Women In Small Enterprises (WISE) Joint Secretary S. Padmini said most of the women who have family issues are earning their livelihood by running beauty parlours. They are meeting the family expenses such as education of children, house rent etc., through the earnings they get from parlours. But now with the parlours shut, their earnings have stopped completely for the past two months and as such the Government must come to their rescue. Also the district administration must allow conditional opening of parlours, she urged.

Association member Sapna Hiraskar alleged that building owners have been urging the parlours to pay monthly rent in full and also pay electricity bills even though parlours have been closed for two months. The Government must look into this matter and ask the owners not to insist on payment of rent and also announce a discount in power bills.

Association members Manjula, Nazreen and others were present.

Inmates of Shelter Camps return to native places

Mysuru, May 11 (MK&DM)- Hundreds of people sheltered in temporary shelter homes across the city following the COVID-19 lockdown have started returning to their native places after the lockdown curbs were relaxed last week. While some of them have returned to their villages, others have returned for labour.

Subsequent to the announcement of nationwide lockdown in the last week of March, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) had set up Shelter Camps at various places in the city. While 32 of the 93 sheltered in Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry on Vinobha road have left either to their native places or for work, 8 have left from Neramballi Kalyana Mantapa, 6 from Nityotsava Kalyana Mantapa in Krishnamurthypuram, 39 from Hoysala Karnataka Sangha Bhavan and 8 from Youth Hostel.

MCC Assistant Engineer Shivappa, who is in-charge of the Shelter Camps, said that the MCC has planned to send back all of them either to their native places or workspots before the lockdown ends on May 17.

Pointing out that some of them have returned to their earlier jobs or profession, he said that the MCC in association with city-based CREDIT-I, has been in touch with several private companies on providing permanent employment to others who do not have jobs.

CREDIT-I's M.P. Varsha said that there are elderly and disabled persons too in shelter camps who cannot work and that his organisation was trying to find them other suitable places of shelter post lockdown.

Pointing out that all the abled persons in shelter homes were trained in a few crafts, he said that the inmates made more than 8,000 paper bags and envelopes, totally earning Rs.24,000 during their stay.

Stating that it is happy to note that a competition has arisen among those trained in making paper covers, Varsha said that his organisation had worked towards ensuring that no inmate leaves the shelter home penniless and added that efforts will be made to provide employment to those who do not find jobs or work.

MCC Additional Commissioner N.M. Shashikumar said that the Labour Department is providing vehicles to the inmates leaving the shelter homes to reach their workplaces or farms.

Pandanda Kuttappa, the man behind Kodava Family Hockey Festival

Pandanda Kuttappa (Kuttani), the man behind the genesis of the Kodava Family Hockey Festival, might have left us for his heavenly abode but his contribution to hockey will be remembered for generations to come and will forever remain in the hearts of hockey lovers. Here we publish an article by **Pratap Simha,** MP, Mysuru-Kodagu Lok Sabha Constituency. — **Ed**

By Pratap Simha, MP

Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah ibni Almarhum Sultan Yussuff Izzuddin Shah Ghafarullahu-lah...The name is pretty long, just like D-to-D pass on a hockey turf, right? As his name suggests, Azlan was a king and he, like his ancestors, ruled Perak region in Malaysia.

Here in India, we had our Princely States of Mysore, Indore, Gwalior and Pune. One can say that Perak region in Malaysia is no different than these Princely States of India. And as Mysureans loved Wadiyars, subjects of Perak loved their King.

Like our Wadiyars, Sultan Azlan was a great patron of poetry and art. While studying Barrister at Law in England, Sultan Azlan Shah got fascinated with hockey game so much so that after coming back to his country with a Barrister degree, he built a team of hockey players in Malaysia. At that time, most of the Malay islands were European colonies and the British supported him.

Azlan Shah started organising hockey tournaments in his country and within a short span, this sport became popular among the youth in his country. During those times, there was a significant population of Tamilians in Malaysia who used to work as labourers. Sultan noticed that these Tamilians had good physique and necessary talent for the game and so he nurtured a number of young talented Tamilian hockey players for his squad. Azlan Shah Hockey Tournament is now a major hockey event and the world calls him 'The father of Asian Hockey.'

Just like Azlan Shah, if we utter the word 'hockey' in Karnataka, a name comes to our mind. He is the one who popularised hockey as a sport in our State. Very much like Sultan Azlan Shah, he was also rich and was pursuing a totally different profession. And the tournament he started is now featured in Limca Book of Records.

Pandanda Kuttappa, fondly called Kuttani by his near and dear ones, is the brain behind 'Kodava Hockey Namme' or Kodava Hockey Festival. This festival is now recognised as one of the largest field hockey tournaments in the world. Pandanda Kuttappa breathed his last on Thursday, May 7, 2020. The name of Pandanda Kuttappa will remain in the history books as long as hockey is played in India.

Family hockey of fame

Pandanda Kuttappa was working as a bank officer. Just like Sultan Azlan, Kuttappa established 'Kodava Hockey Academy.' In 1997, he organised hockey tournament for the first time in Kodagu and 60 teams participated in that 'Pandanda Cup' hockey tournament. And the number of participating teams increased every year. His name has been featured in the Limca Book of Records for being instrumental in starting the Kodava Family Hockey Tournament.

This hockey tournament is held every year in Kodagu district in the month of April and May. A special feature of this tournament is that each year this hockey festival is organised by one of the Kodava families and the tournament is named after the organising family. The organising family is responsible for arranging the finances needed for the festival. The inaugural edition of the festival was named as Pandanda Cup, after the organisers, Pandanda Family. In 2003, this hockey festival saw the participation of the highest number of 280 teams in the Kaliyanda Cup held at Napoklu.

Pandanda Kuttappa, holding a silver hockey stick, shares a point with former Defence Minister late Manohar Parrikar when the latter visited Shantheyanda Cup Kodava Family Hockey Tournament held in 2016. The author of this article MP Pratap Simha is also seen.

Coffee and Hockey have become synonymous with Kodavas so much so that there goes a saying: If you throw a stone in Kodagu district, it will either hit a soldier or a hockey player. Hockey is like a religion in Kodagu and like each Kodava home has the traditional gun, each home will have a couple of hockey sticks.

Over the years, this popular sport event has greatly influenced the lives of Kodavas. This has become a motivating factor for those who are willing to join Indian Army. Every year, professional teams from different parts of the country eagerly wait to watch this hockey festival. Other than Kodava Hockey Festival and Azlan Shah Cup, probably there is no other example of such kind in the world where a sport event is making so much of an impact in the lives of general population.

Champions make a mark

'Malaysia, Truly Asia' captures and defines the essence of that country's unique diversity and Azlan Shah Cup has been a major contributing factor. Similarly, Kodava Hockey Festival has become the nursery of Indian hockey. As we see in the history of hockey, in the beginning, this sport was popular only in Europe. After Sultan Azlan started organising hockey tournament in his country, Asian hockey became more than just a buzzword all over the world.

Pandanda Kuttappa being presented Karnataka Rajyotsava Award in 2015 by the then Chief Minister Siddharamaiah and Kannada and Culture Minister Umashree.

In fact, during the British rule, hockey was a popular game of Kodavas. Kodava clan have a long history of association with the game of field hockey. There is a long list of national-level players from Kodagu region including Maleyanda Muthappa, Paikera Kalaiah, the great goalkeeper or 'The Wall' Anjaparavanda Subbaiah, former captains of Indian Hockey team such as Govinda, Maneyapanda Somaiah, Mollera P. Ganesh, Arjun Halappa, Olympian Cheppudira Poonacha, Koothanda Poonacha who has coached a number of overseas teams, penalty corner specialist Ballachanda Len Ayyappa, striker Palanganda Amar Ayyamma, Raghunath, Sunil, promising players such as Nikkin Thimmaiah, Alemada Cheeyanna, Sannuvanda Uthappa and the list goes on and on.

Dominating major teams

Players from Kodagu have dominated in all major hockey teams of the country and this includes national hockey clubs such as MEG, AAC, Railways, Air India, Canara Bank, SBI, HAL and Tata. You name any major hockey team in India and there would be at least one Kodava in each eleven-member hockey team. Even in hockey clubs of the State, one would certainly find either an Appanna or a Bopanna. Interestingly, in some Universities, the eleven-member hockey team comprise only Kodavas! The reason is very simple.

You might know how China prepares their children for Olympics. Just like that, every Kodava kid in Kodagu carries a hockey stick while going to their primary school. Coffee and hockey have become synonymous with Kodavas so much so that there goes a saying: If you throw a stone in Kodagu district, it will either hit a soldier or a hockey player. Hockey is like a religion in Kodagu and like each Kodava home has the traditional gun, each home will have a couple of hockey sticks.

Hockey clubs galore

All the major towns in Kodagu have at least one hockey club in their area. 'Blue Star' of Madikeri, 'Dolphin' and 'Wanders' of Somwarpet, 'Towers' of Virajpet, 'Shivaji' of Gonikoppal, 'BBC' of Gonikoppal, 'Sports Club' of Ammathi are the names of a few hockey clubs in Kodagu district. There is no wonder that this small district in southern part of Karnataka has given so many great hockey players for the field hockey teams in India. Here is one more interesting fact: It is said that both Field Marshal Kodandera M. Cariappa and General Kodandera S. Thimayya caught the attention of British because of their keen interest in hockey.

[Continued on page 5]

Forest Minister visits villages in Kundakere Range forest border

Listens to grievances of people who have lost their livestock in tiger attacks

Gundlupet, May 11 (SOMG & KS)- Following tiger attacks on livestock at villages bordering Kundakere Range since 20 days, Forest Minister Anand Singh along with the officials of the Forest Department conducted an inspection at Kadabur village recently and listened to the grievances of farmers and villagers who have lost their livestock.

As farmers and villagers had demanded the capture of the tiger which had killed more than 20 cattle in the region, the Forest Minister personally visited the villagers and held discussions with them.

MLA C.S. Niranjan Kumar, who accompanied Minister Anand Singh, brought to his notice that three tigers had come out of Bandipur Tiger Reserve creating tension in the villages and hence the State Government should give permission to capture the tigers. He urged the Minister to take steps to capture the tigers immediately and relocate them elsewhere.

Meanwhile, farmer leaders Sampath and Kadabur Manjunath, who met the Minister, told him that the solar fences installed in forest borders had become defunct and even trenches were filled with mud which had resulted in frequent incidents of wild animals raiding human habitat.

The farmer leaders also apprised the Minister that requests to install Railway track barricades is being made since 10 years which was being neglected. Tigers and leopards chasing the deer were jumping over the trenches and entering villages, they said and accused the Forest officials of not taking any action to solve the problem.

Pointing out that the compensation being provided to the owners of cattle that were killed by tiger was very less, Sampath and Manjunath said that cattle owners who have taken up honey farming for their livelihood after their livestock were killed by tiger were now suffering as they are unable to go to their field fearing tiger attack.

The farmer leaders urged Minister Anand Singh that if a 15 ft. tall chain link mesh is installed to the rail track, this would prevent wild animals from coming out of forest. Minister Anand Singh assured them he would instruct the Forest officials and added that the operation to capture the tiger would commence soon.

Meanwhile, a few farmers told Minister Anand Singh that about 15 years ago a private person had purchased about 1,500 acre land in forest border from farmers to install solar fences to prevent wild animals from entering villages. That person had obtained loans on the lands he had purchased but had not done anything which had resulted in overgrown weeds and bushes in the lands and wild animals making it their habitat.

They urged the Minister to take steps to get the land returned to the original land owners so that they could take up farming or include the land to the forest so that the forest could be expanded considering the increase in wild animals in the forest. Minister Anand Singh, who listened to the farmers patiently, told them that he would collect information from the Revenue Department officials in this regard.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) Ajay Mishra, Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF) T. Heeralal, Bandipur Project Tiger Director T. Balachandra, Additional Superintendent of Police Anitha Huddannanavar, Tahsildar Nanjundaiah and others were present.

Cop receives 14 stitches on head preventing husband-wife fight

Mandya, May 11 (Nagaiah&KS)- A Police Head Constable attached to Kesthur Police Station suffered serious head injuries after being struck with an axe while trying to prevent a fight between a couple at Arekalludoddi village in Maddur taluk on Friday.

While the seriously injured cop is C.P. Shivaraju, the man who struck him on the head with an axe is identified as Venkataramu of the village.

Details: Venkataramu and Asha couple had fought over family issues and following a complaint, Head Constable Shivaraju went to the spot to prevent the couple from fighting.

Meanwhile, Venkataramu, who was drunk, picked up an axe and struck on the head of Shivaraju. Seeing Shivaraju bleed severely due to the injury, the villagers admitted him to Maddur General Hospital where he received 14 stitches on his head. The Head Constable is said to be out of danger.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Parashuram, Dy.SP Pruthvi, Circle Inspector Prasad, Sub-Inspector Anand and others visited the spot.

Kesthur Police, who have taken Venkataramu and Asha couple into their custody, are investigating.

Sugama Sangeetha Classes

Mysuru, May 11- Meru Kala Samooha is conducting online Sugama Sangeetha classes for those who know to sing.

For details, contact Mob: 91411-19651, according to a press release.

Mysuru can now handle 1,000 COVID tests per day

(Continued from page 1)

The facility also has provision for storing and donning Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), storage of used aprons along with emergency body shower and eye wash. The mobile lab, equipped with captive and raw power supply, fuel and water, can be easily transported by road and deployed at the site of emergency as per the requirement. PARAKH is provided with air bellow suspension to reduce the vibration during transport and air compressor for inflating tyres, he added.

Ready for 1,000 tests per day

Addressing reporters during the launch, Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj, Director, MMC&RI, said that they had learnt about the Mobile Microbial Containment Laboratory and the DFRL readily agreed to hand it over for COVID-19 tests.

"Dr. Anuradha, Head, Microbiology and Dr. Amrutha, Officer in charge of Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (VRDL), visited DFRL and found it extremely good, advanced and safe to test the killer virus," he said.

On the number of tests the PARAKH can perform, he said

that it has the capacity to test 300 patients. "Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar has asked us to be ready for at least 1,000 COVID tests per day. The VRDL located at Microbiology Wing of MMC&RI (K.R. Hospital) tests 300 samples per day as it functions round-the- clock. PARAKH can test an additional 300. Together, PARAKH and VRDL can stretch up to 700 tests per day. Also, the CFTRI has donated two PACR machines that can test another 300 patients. Altogether, we are ready for 1,000 tests," he added.

Dr. Anuradha, Dr. Amrutha and Dr. H.B. Sashidhara from MMC&RI, Dr. M.M. Parida, Head, Food Microbiology, Dr. N. Gopalan, Dr. Joseph Kingston and Jayaprakash from DFRL were present during the Mobile Lab handing over ceremony.

Pandanda Kuttappa

[Continued from page 4]

History of modern hockey dates back to 1861 when Europeans took this game into their colonies in different parts of the world. A number of hockey clubs were established in all major provinces of British India, but people of Kodagu and Punjab gave special status to this game and kept it close their heart. In 1885-1886, British started playing this game in their favourite 'Tiny Model State' of Coorg (Kodagu). Probably, at that time, no European would have hoped that this game would become so popular in this region; so much so that every ordinary Kodava started using a branch of tree as a hockey stick and any hard wooden nut as a ball. Meanwhile, British started recruiting young Kodavas for their troops.

Tale behind Men's Compound

Even British were enthralled with this game. There is an interesting story here. In Madikeri, there is a hockey ground by the name 'Men's Compound.' History says that this British coffee planter with last name 'Men' or 'Mann' was so fond of this game that he turned part of his coffee estate into a hockey ground! Even to this day, hundreds of young players are being trained in this popular hockey ground known as 'Men's Compound' in Madikeri. None of that Englishman's descendants are now living in the region, but his name has now become synonymous with hockey for passionate players of the game. It is said that during British rule, hockey tournaments were held in this ground every Sunday. British used to bring players from faraway places such as southern part of Kodagu and organise tournaments in memory of their senior officials.

On a bullock cart

There is another interesting story here. It states that to participate in a hockey tournament, which was to be held in Cantonment area of Bengaluru, a hockey enthusiast by name Pattada Somaiah had travelled to Bengaluru from Kodagu with his team members in a bullock cart!

Here is one more from the pages of history. In 1960s, there was a hockey team comprising primary school teachers who used to participate in major national level hockey tournaments. This 'Coorg Teacher's Team' came to limelight for playing against a number of international teams and had created history by scoring 20 goals against Sri Lankan team in Madras! Some members of this troupe had even represented India. Where else can we find such a passion and affection for the game? For Kodava clan, hockey is just not a game but part of their culture. All the credit definitely goes to Pandanda Kuttappa, the legendary figure.

Project on to remove silt from Cauvery River in Kushalnagar

Kushalnagar, May 11 (Akshay &BCT)- Ground-breaking ceremony for a mega Rs. 89-lakh project to remove silt from River Cauvery in the Kushalnagar belt to prevent flooding of the town was performed this morning. Madikeri MLA M.P. Appachu Ranjan performed the ceremony in the presence of Kodlipet's Kirkodli Mutt Seer Sadashiva Swamiji. The Kodagu District Administration had agreed for the project based on the request by Kushalnagar Cauvery Pravaha Santhrasthara Vedike (Forum for flood affected) and funds were released accordingly by the State Government.

Previous two years, there was unprecedented flooding in Kushalnagar and most of the areas inside the town were under water for weeks together. Kodagu received the highest-ever rainfall for August 2018 surpassing an 87-year-old record. Last year too, the district received high rainfall and as a result, rivers were in full spate.

Last year, for the first time, the 400-year-old bridge near Kushalnagar-Koppa border (next to the newly-constructed bridge) submerged on Aug. 10. This rain, coupled with huge water release from Harangi Dam, brought untold miseries to the people of Kushalnagar.

This year, the silt is being removed to prevent flooding like in the previous years. An area of 300-metre length and 100-metre width has been identified in the surroundings of Rasool Layout, Muthappa Swamy Temple and Ayyappa Swamy Temple.

The mud-and-sand combined silt is being removed by earth movers and the excavated earth will be dumped on the river side. Also, channels will be built so that rainwater that floods Kushalnagar town can smoothly enter the river. PR Constructions has been given the contract of silt removal.

Silt removal from Harangi Dam

MLA Appachu Ranjan told 'Star of Mysore' today that a proposal to lift over one tmcft (one thousand million cubic feet) of silt that has accumulated at Harangi Dam is pending with the State Government.

Harangi is the main Cauvery water supply reservoir from the catchment areas to Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) Dam in Mandya, the lifeline of South Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Due to heavy silt deposit, enough water cannot be stored, leading to annual water shortage. Therefore, it has been recommended to the Government to take measures to remove silt so that more water can be stored, he said.

The Karnataka Engineers Research Station (KERS) at KRS Dam in Mandya and Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd. had studied the silt deposits and accepting its recommendations, the State Government had released Rs. 75 crore to remove silt. "We have requested the Government to release Rs. 130 crore and the proposal is yet to be accepted as the Government is busy in COVID-19 battle," the MLA said.

River course correction

Due to major landslides, many rivers and tributaries have changed its course. Last year, the inflow from River Cauvery was more than Harangi River. Every year, Harangi River reports highest inflow to the Harangi Dam and last year's phenomenon was unique. While Harangi River originates in the Pushpagiri Hills, Cauvery takes birth in Talacauvery and flows through Bhagamandala, Kushalnagar and Koodige. Both the rivers meet at Koodumangaluru and flow into KRS Dam.

"Last year, Harangi River reported an inflow of 30,000 to 35,000 cusecs while Cauvery River reported an inflow of 80,000 to 85,000 cusecs. This is because the rivers have changed course and have accumulated huge silt due to landslides of 2018. We need money for river course correction and silt removal and that's why we have asked for Rs. 130 crore," Appachu Ranjan said.

Dy.SP Shylendra, Kushalnagar Panchayat CEO Sujay Kumar, Kushalnagar Cauvery Pravaha Santhrasthara Vedike President Chandra Mohan, members Uday Kumar, M.M. Charan, Varadha and Kodaganа Harsha were present.

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14-day quarantine must

(Continued from page 1)

Mysuru DC's note

All those who arrive in the State will have to undergo a mandatory swab test for COVID-19, even if they are tested elsewhere. Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar too has issued a media release that all inter-State passengers will be subjected to facility quarantine for 14 days.

"It is hereby brought to notice of all who wish to enter Mysuru district from other States that, in order to prevent and contain COVID-19 in our district, all inter-State passengers will be subjected to facility quarantine for 14 days. They may either opt for a hostel (free of cost) or hotel (on payment basis). Home quarantine is not permitted for inter-State passengers. Kindly take note and co-operate in public interest. All will be tested for COVID on the 14th day of arrival," the DC's note said.

London flight arrives

Meanwhile, an Air India repatriation flight (1803), carrying 323 passengers, arrived from London at Kempegowda International Airport at around 4.47 am today. The passengers were screened and checked and were also handed over a self-declaration form by the Health Dept. officials in Bengaluru. Reports from Bengaluru said that all the 323 passengers were asymptomatic.

They were shifted to hotels for a 14-day quarantine in 16 government buses, officials said. None of them have arrived to Mysuru. In the coming days, Mysuru is expecting over 2,500 international travellers and the District Administration has taken over 170 hotels in city to accommodate them and the travellers will pay the hotel charges.

No dead bodies

In another significant decision, the Government decided not to bring back the body of anyone from Karnataka who dies while in another State. The last rites in such cases shall have to be performed in the State where the death occurred, it was decided.

Yesterday, the Mandya District Administration denied permission to bring the body of a Maddur woman who died in Pune, Maharashtra. The family members, who were bringing the body, were stopped at the State's border. The woman was a software engineer in Pune and passed away yesterday. The issue was brought to the notice of the Mandya District Administration which directed to subject the body to COVID test. Later, the family members of the woman decided to conduct the last rites in Maharashtra itself.

COVID-19 UPDATE

MYSURU

Persons observed till date	:	5,029
Persons who have completed 14 days' isolation	:	4,757
Persons isolated in home for 14 days (Inter-State travellers)	:	268
Persons isolated in hospital for active cases	:	4
Total samples tested	:	5,331
Samples found negative	:	5,241
Samples found positive (cumulative)	:	90
Persons cured / discharged	:	86
Death toll so far in Mysuru	:	0

MANDYA

Total positive cases in Mandya	:	28
Persons cured / discharged	:	14
Death toll so far in Mandya	:	0

KARNATAKA & INDIA

Total positive cases in Karnataka	:	862
Persons cured / discharged	:	426
Death toll so far in Karnataka	:	31
Total active cases in India	:	44,029
Persons cured / discharged	:	20,916
Death toll so far in India	:	2,206

(Note: Some of the figures of Mysuru are as on May 10. Media bulletin for May 11 not available)

Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520/2496521/2496523/ 2496526/2496527/2496528 Fax: 0821-2496525, 2496530. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.